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be read slides under the substantially unmoved hand of the user. It may be provided that the speed of rotation of the perforated plate 4 can be influenced by the user.

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for representing relief items, comprising:
 - a first perforated plate which is rotatable about an axial center thereof and which defines an upper surface and a plurality of circular openings therethrough arranged in concentric radial circles,
 - a cover plate positioned above said perforated plate, said cover plate providing a reading window therein for exposing a portion of said perforated plate therebelow,
 - a pin which is mounted beneath said perforated plate and rotatable therewith, said pin being axially movable between a first position wherein an upper end thereof is positioned below said upper surface of said perforated plate and a second position wherein said upper end thereof is positioned above said upper surface of said perforated plate,
 - a permanent magnet for retaining said pin in one of said first and second positions, and
 - an actuator located beneath said perforated plate for moving said pin between said first and second positions when not exposed by said reading window.
2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said actuator comprises an electromagnet.
3. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said actuator comprises a wedge-shaped ramp.
4. An apparatus according to claim 1, including a spring which moves said pin in an axial direction thereof.
5. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said pin includes a permanent magnet and wherein said actuator comprises a second perforated plate which is magnetic and

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cooperates with said permanent magnet of said pin to axially move said pin.

6. An apparatus according to claim 1, including a respective pin for each circular opening in said perforated plate.

7. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said actuator comprises a carriage which is movable transversely to an axis of said pin to move said pin to a specific position.

8. An apparatus for representing relief items, comprising:

a first perforated plate which is rotatable about an axial center thereof and which defines an upper surface and a plurality of circular openings therethrough arranged in concentric radial circles,

a cover plate positioned above said perforated plate, said cover plate providing a reading window therein for exposing a portion of said perforated plate therebelow,

a pin which is mounted beneath said perforated plate and rotatable therewith, said pin being axially movable between a first position wherein an upper end thereof is positioned below said upper surface of said perforated plate and a second position wherein said upper end thereof is positioned above said upper surface of said perforated plate,

a permanent magnet for retaining said pin in one of said first and second positions, and

an actuator located beneath said perforated plate for moving said pin between said first and second positions when not exposed by said reading window, said actuator comprising an electromagnet to move said pin from said second position to said first position and a wedge-shaped ramp to move said pin from said first position back to said second position.

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